

The new Low Voltage Directive

The year 2016 marked the entry into force of many new editions of existing directives, including the most important and known are the Low Voltage Directive, Electromagnetic Compatibility Directive, the ATEX and PED. These include the Directive that applies to a larger number of devices, equipment and components is certainly the Low Voltage Directive.

MTM Consulting can follow your company to assess what changes for your company and your product with the entry into force of the new Directive and related harmonized standards, helping you make the Technical File.

Directive 2014/35/EU, commonly called Low Voltage, came into force in April 2016; it has been implemented in Italy by Legislative Decree no. 19 May 2016, n. 86, which translates this into Italian by entering the sanctions Directive.

The Directive applies to all equipment, components or parts of components that have made efforts within the following voltage limits: 50 to 100 volts alternating current, from 75 to 1500 Volts DC.

It therefore covers both defined and complete objects, or ready to use, but also in parts broken or incomplete, or even just some of them, like the power cables: to all that is marketed to be fed, or lead inside electrical current to voltage above falls within the scope of the Low voltage Directive and therefore must comply with its requirements, be marked EC and be accompanied by a Declaration of Conformity.

The manufacturer must comply with the safety requirements of the Directive. The harmonized standards for this Directive are in this case particularly useful because detailing issues such as identification of the wiring, the requirements of power cables, construction of switches and differential temperature of the live parts requirements, test methods for fire resistance, requirements of insulating materials, etc., thus providing a presumption of conformity with precise technical indications, not mentioned in the directive given its scope so exterminated.

The manufacturer then supplies its single product has CE marking and declaration of conformity. It demonstrates the conformity of his product build, and maintain active a Technical File and a manufacturing process control system, as with any other product Directives, and assumes responsibility for compliance with safety requirements by drafting and signing a Declaration of CE conformity, to be delivered to the customer with the product itself.